

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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TAGS: PGOV, NL

SUBJECT: NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT: NEW CABINET WILL HOLD PRE-
CONSTITUENT MEETING MAY 3

REF: THE HAGUE 1954

1. SUMMARY: FORMATEURS BURGER AND RUPPERT HAVE NOW SELECTED ALL
CANDIDATE MINISTERS. CABINET DEN UYL WILL HOLD PRE- CONSTITUENT
SESSION MAY 3. IF NO HITCHES DEVELOP, DEN UYL ANTICIPATING HIS
NEW GOVT CAN BE SWORN IN MAY 9. END SUMMARY.

2. FORMATEURS BURGER AND RUPPERT COMPLETED DISCUSSIONS WITH
CANDIDATE MINISTER MAY 2. FOLLOWING WILL PARTICIPATE IN
PRE- CONSTITUENT CABINET SESSION SET FOR MAY 3.

PRIME MINISTER - J. M. DEN UYL, LABOR, 53

FOREIGN MINISTER - MAX VAN DER STOEL, LABOR, 48

DEFENSE - H. VREDELING, LABOR, 48

FINANCE - W. F. DUISENBERG, LABOR, 37

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE - JAN PRONK, LABOR, 33

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT - IRENE VORRINK, LABOR, 55

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3. THERE ARE INDICATIONS DE GAAY FORTMAN, NOW THAT DEN UYL CABINET SEEMS ON THE TRACKS, MAY STEP ASIDE FOR YOUNGER ARP REPRESENTATIVE. IN PARTY MEETING APR 28, RADICALS APPROVED COURSE FORMATION HAS TAKEN. LABOR CHAIRMAN VAN DER LOUW HAS ALERTED PARTY DISTRICT LEADERS TO BE PREPARED FOR SPECIAL MEETING EARLY NEXT WEEK TO RATIFY DEN UYL'S DECISIONS IN PRE- CONSTITUENT MEETING. LEFTWING JUNIOR PARTNER D' YY, UNHAPPY AT " CONCESSIONS" LEFT WING HAD MADE, IS WARNING AGAINST FURTHER " DILUTION" OF LEFT WING PROGRAM AND HAS CALLED FOR FIRM AGREEMENTS IN PRE- CONSTITUENT MEETING ON A) LAND POLICY, B) RENTS AND C) DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. ON CONFESS- IONAL SIDE THERE CONTINUING UNREST IN ARP AND SEVERAL SECOND CHAMBER MEMBERS HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL NOT SUPPORT DEN UYL GOVT. PM BIESHEUVEL REPORTEDLY DEBATING WHETHER TO RETURN TO SECOND CHAMBER AS LEADER OF ARP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP AND SERVE AS " OPPOSITION LEADER" THUS PREVENTING LIBERALS' WIEGEL FROM ASSUMING THIS ROLE BY DEFAULT.

4. SCENARIO FOR CLOSING DAYS OF FORMATION APPEARS TO BE 1) PRE- CONSTITUENT MEETING MAY 3 AND 4, 2) FORMATUERS MAKE END REPORT TO QUEEN, 3) CONSTITUENT SESSION OF THE CABINET EARLY NEXT WEEK AND 4) FORMAL INSTALLATION OF NEW GOVT BY QUEEN MID- WEEK. PARLIAMENTARY EDITOR OF HET PAROOL TOLD EMBOFF MAY 2 DEN UYL TOLD HIM THAT MORNING THIS WOULD BE MAY 9. THIS APPEARS TO BE REASONABLY FIRM SINCE IN ARRANGING FAREWELL CALL FOR AMBASSADOR ON FONMIN, SCHMELZER' S OFFICE INFORMED EMBASSY HE DID NOT EXPECT TO BE MINISTER BY NEXT WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY (MAY 9 AND 10).

5. COMMENT: CONFESSIONALS HAVE CONTENTED PRE- CONSTITUENT MEETING WOULD TELL TALE. THIS NOW SEEMS OVERSTATED ALTHOUGH THIS SESSION OR PARTY RANK AND FILE REACTION TO DECISIONS MADE THEREIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COULD PROVIDE SURPRISES. BUT DEN UYL GOVT IS NOW GENERALLY ASSUMED AND PICTURES OF " NEW MINISTERS" ARE FRONT PAGED ON ALL PAPERS. WE ADDRESSED EFFECT SUCH GOVT MIGHT HAVE ON US INTERESTS IN GENERAL TERMS (THE HAGUE 662) AND WILL EXPLORE THIS QUESTION IN DETAIL WHEN NEW GOVT ACTUALLY SWORN IN AND PM DEN UYL PRESENTS HIS REGERINGSVERKLARING (GOVT DECLARATION).

MIDDENDORF

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